Table 2
Changes to policies and hiring of postdoctoral researchers and NFRs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, by 2018 Carnegie Classification and control of institution: 2020

(Number and percent)

Item responses	Total	Very high research activity		All other GSS schools	
		Public	Private	Public	Private
Changed postdoctoral funding					
No	43.4	36.9	45.9	47.7	42.9
Yes	11.3	16.5	23.0	4.7	5.7
Don't know	45.3	46.6	31.2	47.7	51.4
Number of coordinators responding	362	103	61	128	70
Changed postdoctoral duration					
No	36.3	37.9	37.7	33.6	37.
Yes	15.5	24.3	32.8	3.9	8.
Does not apply	13.0	11.7	11.5	13.3	15.
Don't know	35.2	26.2	18.0	49.2	37.
Number of coordinators responding	361	103	61	128	6
Delayed or rescinded offers to postdoctoral researchers					
No	34.4	26.2	39.3	29.7	51.
Yes	20.0	32.0	23.0	10.9	16.:
Don't know	45.6	41.8	37.7	59.4	32.
Number of coordinators responding	360	103	61	128	6
Staffing reductions for postdoctoral researchers					
No	46.9	40.8	47.5	46.1	57.4
Yes	18.3	27.2	26.2	10.2	13.:
Don't know	34.7	32.0	26.2	43.8	29.
Number of coordinators responding	360	103	61	128	6
Staffing reductions for NFRs					
No	32.0	25.5	23.0	31.3	51.
Yes	20.3	31.4	24.6	14.1	11.
Don't know	47.6	43.1	52.5	54.7	36.8
Number of coordinators responding	359	102	61	128	68
Other impacts on postdoctoral researchers or NFRs					
No	91.2	85.3	93.0	93.7	94.:
Yes	8.8	14.7	7.0	6.4	5.8
Number of coordinators responding	354	102	57	126	6'
Combined responses to these items ^a					
No to all questions above	11.3	7.8	4.9	11.7	21.
Yes to any question above	41.7	55.3	55.7	28.1	34.
Don't know to all questions above	21.6	15.5	13.1	31.3	20.
Mix of no and don't know	25.4	21.4	26.2	28.9	24.
Number of coordinators responding	362	103	61	128	7

GSS = Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering; NFR = nonfaculty researcher.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, 2020 COVID Impact Module.

^a Responses of "does not apply" to the question on changed postdoctoral duration were treated as legitimate skips for the combined variable.